

ABSTRACT

A method for determining a remaining capacity of an electric storage such as a lithium ion secondary battery which is mounted on a hybrid electric automobile or the like accurately at an arbitrary time interval includes the steps of: monitoring a charging/discharging current of the secondary battery and calculating a first remaining capacity value continuously by executing an integrating operation based on the charging/discharging current; and detecting a switching timing between charge and discharge of the secondary battery, regarding, with the timing that is detected, a terminal voltage of the secondary battery at the detected timing as an open-circuit voltage to obtain a second remaining capacity value based on the open-circuit voltage, and updating the first remaining capacity value with the second remaining capacity value.